

1  **OVERWATCH REPORT**

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**“Beware of False Prophets”****Matthew 7:15**

Equipping Ekklesia

July 10, 2022

Russ Wagner

2  **We Must Test The Prophets and Their Words**

- We are accustomed to agreeing or disagreeing with a prophet based on how their prophecy lines up with our personal ideas or convictions on that subject.

WRONG TEST!

- We must first determine if they are a true prophet of God...or not.
- Then if they are a true prophet of God, the issue of whether we “like” the prophetic word, or whether we “agree” with the prophetic word, is not for us to decide.
- We must bring our ideas and convictions in line with the prophetic word.
- So they rose early in the morning and went out into the Wilderness of Tekoa; and as they went out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, “Hear me, O Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem: Believe in the LORD your God, and you shall be established; believe His prophets, and you shall prosper.” II Chronicles 20:20 NKJV

3  **Many False Prophets**

- ‘Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world.’ I John 4:1 ESV
- Prophets in the Kingdom must “PASS THE TEST”
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4  **Beware of False Prophets**

- ‘ “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus you will recognize them by their fruits. Matthew 7:15-20 ESV

5  **1. Does what the prophet said come to pass?**

- ‘But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.’ And if you say in your heart, ‘How may we know the word that the Lord has not spoken?’— when a prophet speaks in the name of the Lord , if the word does not come to pass or come true, that is a word that the Lord has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously. You need not be afraid of him.’ Deuteronomy 18:20-22 ESV

6  **2. Does what the prophet said draw your heart away from simple trust in Christ?**

- "If a prophet or a dreamer of dreams arises among you and gives you a sign or a wonder, and the sign or wonder that he tells you comes to pass, and if he says, 'Let us go after other gods,' which you have not known, 'and let us serve them,' you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams. For the Lord your God is testing you, to know whether you love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. You shall walk after the Lord your God and fear him and keep his commandments and obey his voice, and you shall serve him and hold fast to him. Deuteronomy 13:1-4 ESV

7  **3. Does what the prophet said line up with written word of God?**

- "If a prophet or a dreamer of dreams arises among you and gives you a sign or a wonder, and the sign or wonder that he tells you comes to pass, and if he says, 'Let us go after other gods,' which you have not known, 'and let us serve them,' you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams. For the Lord your God is testing you, to know whether you love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. You shall walk after the Lord your God and fear him and keep his commandments and obey his voice, and you shall serve him and hold fast to him. Deuteronomy 13:1-4 ESV

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8  **4. Does the prophet's character reflect the image of Jesus Christ and bare the fruit of the Holy Spirit?**

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- Are they speaking out of anger or woundedness?
- Are they walking in humility?
- Does their lifestyle reflect the image and character of Christ?
- Are they in it for money, fame, power, or control?
- Have they left the world's system? ... the religious system?

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9  **Prophets That Pass The Test**

- ✓What the prophet said actually happened
- ✓The prophecy draws your heart closer to Jesus
- ✓The prophecy agrees with written Scriptures
- ✓The prophet reflects the character of Jesus

10  **"I will build MY Ekklesia" Matthew 16:18**

### 11 **Let Us Refocus Our Attention and Efforts**

- *"Many are still trying to save the Republic, Your focus must be on trying to save the Remnant."*
- *"Many are bailing water out of the Titanic, "Your mission is to launch and fill the Life Boats."*

Jesus - 6/12/22

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### 12 **Many False Prophets Lead Many Astray**

- ' "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations for my name's sake. And then many will fall away and betray one another and hate one another. And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come. ' Matthew 24:9-14 ESV

### 13 **Let Us Restore Our Single-Hearted Devotion And Our Pure Love For Christ**

- 'Now, please bear with some of my "craziness" for a moment. Yes, please be patient with me.' 'You need to know that God's passion is burning inside me for you, because, like a loving father, I have pledged your hand in marriage to Christ, your true bridegroom. I've also promised that I would present his fiancée to him as a pure virgin bride. But now I'm afraid that just as Eve was deceived by the serpent's clever lies, your thoughts may be corrupted and you may lose your single-hearted devotion and pure love for Christ. For you seem to gladly tolerate anyone who comes to you preaching a pseudo-Jesus, not the Jesus we have preached. You have accepted a spirit and gospel that is false, rather than the Spirit and gospel you once embraced. How tolerant you have become of these imposters!' 2 Corinthians 11:1-4 TPT

### 14 **Application & Activation**

- "'To the angel of the church of Ephesus write, 'These things says He who holds the seven stars in His right hand, who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands: "I know your works, your labor, your patience, and that you cannot bear those who are evil. And you have tested those who say they are apostles and are not, and have found them liars; and you have persevered and have patience, and have labored for My name's sake and have not become weary. Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love. Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place—unless you repent. But this you have, that you hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God." ' Revelation 2:1-7 NKJV

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